cance. Unilateral dilatation in a normally reacting pupil is always a sign of unilateral irritation of the sympathetic, and is, especially when sometimes one, sometimes the other eye is affected, a very unfavorable one. The dilated pupil from sympathetic irritation reacts poorly to stimuli of light, but contracts with movements of convergence, and is thus distinguished from mydriasis due to oculo-motor paralysis, and, besides, coëxists with absolutely intact accommodation. Pupillary inequalities are very frequently met with in the insane, especially in paralytics and demented cases.

CORTICAL CENTRES OF VISION.—Dr. J. C. Dalton, *N. Y. Med. Record*, March 26th, has repeated Ferrier's experiment of destroying the angular gyrus in monkeys and dogs, and with the same result—blindness of the eye on the side opposite the hemisphere of the brain operated upon. But he found the blindness persistent, instead of temporary, as was the case in Ferrier's monkeys. He deduces the following conclusions :

1. Extirpation of the angular convolution causes loss of visual perception on the opposite side.
2. This operation is not followed by any disturbance of the intelligence attitude, power of locomotion, or general sensibility.
3. It does not interfere with the local sensibility of the retina or conjunctiva, the reaction of the pupil to light, nor with the normal consentaneous movements of winking. Its effects, therefore, are confined to the exercise of visual sensibility.

A NEW CORTICAL CENTRE.—Dr. Græme M. Hammond, in a paper read at the New York Neurological Society, *N. Y. Med. Record*, March 19th, has studied the location of the giant cells of Betz, in the brain of the cat. He finds that they are not localized, as Betz had stated, but were less numerous near the sulcus cruciatus than posteriorly to it, and he has even found them not far from the base of the brain. The largest group of these cells he found in a locality not determinately fixed by physiologists as a motor centre,—in the first primary arched gyrus, between the Sylvian and anterior Sylvian fissures. It is nearer to a locality which Ferrier designated as a centre, excitation of which caused partial divergence of the lips, than to any other discovered motor centre, but it does not correspond exactly to that. The cells here are more ovoid or circular than the pyramidal ones of Betz and Mierzejewski, and even longer than the latter.

Dr. Hammond concludes his paper as follows: "Taking the deductions which have been based upon the existence of these cells, on their merits, we find that those who have relied on this demonstration for the support of the theory of motor centres are reduced to a number of predicaments. 1. That the largest giant cells have been found in the brain of carnivora, where no motor centre has been clearly demonstrated, and near which only small muscles are supposed to receive their cortical innervation. 2. That if, after all, this is a motor centre, the method of localized electrization was incompetent to detect it. I have limited myself, this evening, to this fact. I need not say that the giant cell was known to Meynert, although its locality was not accurately described by him. He claimed that the larger gyri of the frontal lobe contained the largest cells. On the other hand, cells as large as the giant cells can be seen through the entire occipital lobe, according to this observer, in the two white strata, and were described by him by the name of 'solitary cells.' I trust, at no distant date, to review the entire question of the distribution of large cortical cells, with measurements, and to submit them to the Society.

"For the present, I think the existence of the large cortical cell-group which I have described, shows conclusively, that before the existence of large cells can be considered a demonstration of the correctness of functional localization, a more extended study must be made."

ANATOMICAL NOMENCLATURE OF THE BRAIN.—Dr. Burt G. Wilder (*Science*, March 19 and 26) proposes a new nomenclature of the brain, which he supports by rather satisfactory arguments. Inasmuch as cerebral anatomy is, in a measure, in an unsettled condition, and in all its details is yet unfamiliar to the great majority of physicians and students, the proposed system may not be objected to, though novel in its appearance.

It will be seen that it does not extend to the external convolutions and fissures of the brain, and no purely histological features are included. Some parts of the cerebellum and medulla are also omitted, but without these about 150 distinct names are given, most of them referring to more or less distinct parts, but a few indicating general regions distinguishable by color or elevation.

"Most of the names," he says, "are those in common use, with the omission of superfluous elements like *corpus*, and the genitives of the names of more comprehensive parts. Most of the appar-